

## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XG, XH, PL

SUBJECT: POLISH VISA DENIALS AND FAMILY REUNIFICATION  
PROBLEMS

1. VEST MET ALONE WITH SPASOWSKI ON JUNE 7 TO DISCUSS THESE  
ISSUES. THE LATTER HAD ASKED FOR THIS ARRANGEMENT WHICH  
HE SAID WOULD GIVE HIM MORE LEEWAY IN DEALING WITH THE  
SITUATION IN WARSAW.

2. VEST REFERRED TO THE CONVERSATIONS DURING THE JANUARY  
VISIT BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND GIEREK AS WELL AS THE  
SECRETARY AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON HUMAN ISSUES AND  
EMPHASIZED OUR REGRET AND CONCERN THAT THERE HAD NOT BEEN  
THE POSITIVE PROGRESS WHICH WE HAD EXPECTED AS A RESULT

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OF THOSE CONVERSATIONS. HE PASSED TO SPASOWSKI A LIST OF  
DIVIDED FAMILY CASES WHICH SHOULD BE RESOLVED ON A PRIORITY  
BASIS AND MENTIONED THE NEED TO DEAL WITH THE RECENT RISE  
IN VISA DENIALS FOR NATURALIZED AMERICANS WHO WISH TO  
VISIT RELATIVES IN POLAND.

3. SPASOWSKI REPLIED THAT HE MUCH APPRECIATED THE FACT

THAT WE WERE WILLING TO HANDLE THE MATTER INFORMALLY AND PRIVATELY. IF IT HAD BEEN HANDLED FORMALLY HE WOULD THEN HAVE TO REPORT THROUGH BUREAUCRATIC CHANNELS IN WARSAW

AND CERTAIN AREAS WOULD THEN BE ALERTED AND RESISTANT. HE HOPED QUIETLY TO BRING THE SITUATION DIRECTLY TO THE ATTENTION OF GIEREK. HE FULLY RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO HAVE AN UPWARD CURVE BEFORE THE SECRETARY MIGHT ENCOUNTER THE POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER AT THE REGULAR UNGA SESSION THIS FALL, AND ESPECIALLY IF THERE WERE TO BE A PROPER ATMOSPHERE FOR A POSSIBLE GIEREK VISIT TO THE US LATER, PERHAPS NEXT YEAR - -

----- SPASOWSKI VOLUNTEERED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE AMERICAN SCENE WELL ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT THE COMFORTABLE, EVEN WARM RELATIONSHIP, WHICH NOW PREVAILS BETWEEN POLAND AND THE UNITED STATES WOULD ULTIMATELY BE CHILLED IF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN THE HUMAN AREA CONTINUES. AS POLAND'S AMBASSADOR DEVOTED TO MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING THAT RELATIONSHIP, HE WAS DETERMINED TO DO ALL HE COULD TO MAKE PROGRESS ON THESE DIVIDED FAMILY AND VISA PROBLEMS. HE KNEW THE PRESIDENT, THE SECRETARY AND THE ADMINISTRATION VIEWED THESE MATTERS SERIOUSLY. HE SAID HE WAS FAMILIAR WITH VEST'S TESTIMONY ON THE HILL IN SUPPORT OF HUNGARIAN MFN WHEREIN HE HAD DESCRIBED THE PROGRESS ON DIVIDED FAMILY SITUATION IN HUNGARY. HE OBSERVED THAT THE NUMBER OF POLISH CASES  
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IS, OF COURSE, ENORMOUSLY GREATER THAN HUNGARIAN CASES. WHILE HE DID NOT HAVE ANY HOPE OF MATCHING THE HUNGARIAN PERFORMANCE, HE DID AIM TO SHOW AN UPWARD CURVE. HE ASKED THAT WE DO NOTHING MORE FORMAL UNTIL HE HAD A CHANCE TO PURSUE THE MATTER IN WARSAW, AND WOULD DISCUSS THE MATTER PRIVATELY WITH VEST AGAIN AS SOON AS HE RETURNED FROM WARSAW IN EARLY JULY. VEST AGREED TO THIS PROCEDURE BUT WARNED THAT IF THERE WAS NO PERCEPTIBLE PROGRESS, OUR NEXT STEP WOULD CERTAINLY BE THROUGH MORE FORMAL CHANNELS. SPASOWSKI SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THIS AND REPEATED THAT HE WAS DETERMINED TO MAKE HEADWAY ON OUR PROBLEM. VANCE

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